UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/52/875
S/1998/340
22 April 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-second session
Agenda item 61
QUESTION OF CYPRUS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-third year

Letter dated 21 April 1998 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government and further to my letter dated 26 March 1998 (A/52/841-S/1998/270), I have the honour to draw your attention to the following new violations of the airspace of the Republic of Cyprus and of the flight information region of Nicosia by military aircraft of the Turkish Air Force.

On 19 April 1998, between 0825 and 1250 hours, one C-130, two C-160, eight F-16 and four F-4 aircraft of the Turkish Air Force entered the Nicosia flight information region from a northern direction, violating the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the Cape of Apostle Andreas and exiting between 0920 and 1340 hours in a south-eastern direction.

On the same day, between 1230 and 1300 hours, the same aircraft violated anew the national airspace of the Republic, entering the flight information region from a southern direction, flying, once again, over the area of the Cape of Apostle Andreas then exiting between 1309 and 1600 hours towards the Ankara flight information region.

Also on the same day, a training aircraft of the Turkish Air Force entered the Nicosia flight information region from a northern direction east of the Cape of Apostle Andreas at 1128 hours and, after remaining there in violation of international civil aviation regulations for more than three hours, exited at 1348 hours in the same direction.

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus, I wish to protest strongly against the new violations of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus, which are in complete disregard of the Charter of the

United Nations, the relevant decisions of the Organization on the question of Cyprus and international civil aviation regulations.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 61, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Sotirios ZACKHEOS
Ambassador
Permanent Representative